Tricks of State;

Or, more

WESTMINSTER PROJECTS.

Being a further Diſcovery of the myſtery of the Committee of Grandees at DARBY Houſe.

With a perfect Account of their Deſignments and Actings ſince the 28. of *March* to this preſent 18. of *April.*

They juggle ſtill on all hands, and like knaves
Project all wayes to make the *People* ſlaves.
But let them know the *People* ſhall be free,
Maugre their malice, might, or tyrannie:
Freedom and *Juſtice* ſhall in triumph ſtand,
When *Tyranny* and *Tyrants*, hand in hand
Shall forced be to *exile*, and inherit
Perpetual *ſilence*, their due *meed* and *merit*.
Freedom and *Juſtice*, *Peace* and *Plenty* ſhall
Unto the *Peoples* portion ſhortly fall.
The *People* ſhall *unite* to live and dye
In oppoſition to all Tyranny.
Whether in *King* or *Commons*, all their might
Shall be employ'd to purchaſe equal right.
To one another, An *Agreement* will,
In ſpite of all, this *Prophecy fulfill.*

Printed without fear, and diſperſed without favour, for the uniting of honeſt men, and diſcovering of knaves. 1648.

Tricks of State

Or, more

WESTMINSTER PROJECTS.

Being a further Discovery of the mystery of the Committee of Grandees at [illegible] House.

With a perfect Account of their Designments and Acting since the 18. of *April* to this present 18. of *April*.

The, juggle still on all hands, and like knaves
Project all ways to make the *People* slaves.
But let them know the *People* shall be free,
Maugre their malice, might, or tyrannie:
Freedom and *Justice* shall in triumph stand,
When *Tyranny* and *Tyrants*, hand in hand
Shall forced be to *exile*, and inherit
Perpetual *Slaves*, their due *meed* and *merit*.
Freedom and *Justice*, *Peace* and *Mercy* shall
Unto the *People* portion shortly fall.
The *People* shall *unite* to live and dye
In opposition to all Tyranny.
Whether in *King* or *Commons*, all their might
Shall be employ'd to purchase equal right.
To one another, An *Agreement* will,
In spite of all, this *Prophecy* *fulfill*.

Printed without fear, and dispersed without favour, for the uniting of honest men, and discovering & knaves. 1648.

Tricks of State;

Or, more

WESTMINSTER PROJECTS.

NOt to trifle away time, or trouble you with preambles, know, that as in a late Paper, *intituled Westminster Projects*, the proceedings of the present Grandees were to that time discovered, so, in this I shal (though my neer acquaintance and relation to some of them would hinder) discover what further progress they have made in pursuance of those ends then declared; *viz. The perpetuating of their own power and domination over the people.*

In the doing whereof I shal speak in their own dialect, and observe their own method in their debates.

1. Say the *Grandees*, viz. *Vane* junior, *Hazlerig*, *Crumwel*, *Manchester*, *&c.* Unless we can either conquer the City by *policy* or *power* we cannot possibly promise our selves *safety*: It were best if we could do it by *policy*; and therefore though we love them not, yet let us manifest *a seeming love unto them*, let us proffer more then they desire, let us use our utmost endeavor to please

a few, viz. *The great ones*; that by their connivance we may have the better opportunity to prey upon *the middle sort*. We know well that in all Taxes the *Lord Maior* and *Aldermen* pay not the least proportion, the burthen lies upon the *Commonalty*, and so they be *safe* and in *ease*, and have their share in *rule* with *us*, they will not care for the *peoples burthens*: Let them have the *Militia*, they will never employ it to destroy their own *power*, or against themselves; let them have the *Tower*, in a short time (as we will order the business) they shall be as *guilty as we*, and shall be forced to act for their *own security*; And let them have their *Aldermen* too upon *submission*, for what ever happens, the *Parliaments honor must be preserved*.

But (saith another) the Citizens are stubborn, and though it might be wished that things were brought to this pass, yet it is to be feared it will never be effected.

But *Crumwel* replies, tush, fear it not, my son in law *Ireton* and I have not only found the *what* but the *how*; we have found out such a stratagem, such a trap to catch the Citizens in and save our selves, as we are certain will not only effect our design with *secrecy* and *safety*, but with *honor* and *advantage* also.

I have (saith *Crumwel*) by flatteries and promises of preferment won Mr *Glover* the *Councellor* to pursue this design, and to that end he hath received instructions to this effect:

1. *That he should improve his interest in the City, and by secret intimations infuse a good opinion of us and our intentions.*

2. *That he should possess them with prejudice against the Levellers, and heap scandals upon them, and pretend some desperate*

desperate design lies hid under their specious pretences.

3. *That he should visite the prisoners in the Tower, and endeavor to perswade them that their safety lies in petitioning; And decry against Sir* John Maynards *proceedings as rash, and tending to his inevitable destruction.*

4. *That he also endeavor to engage a party in the City to petition in their behalf, if the Prisoners themselves will not petition.*

5. *That he publickly endeavor to get a meeting with some number of Parliament men, of which number we to be chief, and to pretend to offer some Proposals to them, in the name of the City, touching accommodation, &c.*

All which instructions he hath promised to prosecute both with speed and secrecy, not doubting, he says, by his power in the City, to effect our desires herein.

Now because we will not depend only upon one string for security we have provided two or three more.

1. I have this day dispatched a *Gentlewoman, a friend of mine, to the Isle of Wight* (having given *Hammond* a meeting upon *Bagshot heath* before, and given him order to give her free access to the *King*) with some overtures for a *Treaty*, and if the *King* accept my *terms* Col. *Leg*, and Col. *Barclay* shall be dispatched away presently with the particulars; And because this will ask some time before the *Kings mind can be fully known*, we must contrive a way to put the House off from *debating of the business of disposing of the King and settling the Kingdom.*

And because we will not rest only upon the *King* for security, we have framed a way to *divide* the *Scots*, and to that end I have sent to Col. *Birch*, giving him Commission to that purpose, and to give encouragement to *Argile* to get a party in the Army to aw that Parliament

there, as I do here, and to keep them from engaging against this Kingdom.

And though the *Presbyterians in London* are so stout upon the hopes of their coming in, yet let them know we have provided to *humble them*, if they accept not of *accommodation*, which is Mr *Glovers* design at present.

In order whereunto I underhand procured Mr *Masterson* of *Shoreditch* (he that informed against *Lilburn* and *Wildman*, about their Petition) to preach before the Lord Maior in *Pauls*, and gave him in charge to press my Lord Maior to endeavor the hindering the people from walking in Moorefields on Sundays, hoping thereby to enduce my Lord Maior (who hath more zeal then knowledg) to prosecute it with violence, which being done, will in all probality *occasion a tumult*, which, though never so small, by the help of some secret incendiaries, which I have abroad, they shall be incouraged to draw toward *whitehal*, where both *Horse* and *Foot* shall be ready to receive them, and then there will be a sufficient ground for us to bring more forces about the *City* and *pull down the chains*, and take the *City* in our protection; and then if the City do not *accommodate* with us, and *satisfie us in all things*, we will presently disarm both *Presbyterians* and *Levellers*, and by this means shall we spoil their project of uniting with *Marten and his party*, who though we pretend to love, we do alike hate, equal with the *Presbyterians*; and if we can compass our design, he and his party are sure to suffer as our worst enemies; For he will never be quiet, but is always crying, *Settle the Kingdom, settle the Kingdom, let the people know what they shall trust to*. Neither can we bribe over our opposites to our side as we would for him, but still he is crying, *Do not close*

people, you ought not to dispose of the Kingdoms money to one another, &c. and therefore if we stand, he must fall.

The people are all in a hurly Burly, and therefore to amuse them, let us adjourn for seven or eight days, and in the mean time let us have a meeting at *Windsor Castle* where we my be both safe and secret, and receive the Kings Answer, and according thereunto consult for the further management of our business; I have engaged the Earl of *Southampton* to give us a meeting there, he hath power with the King, and may do us much good; and for my part I adjudg it meet, if possible, if we see that our design of dividing the *Scots* cannot go, to offer at adjourning, and if we cannot carry it, then immediatly to fly to our Arms, and pretend to stand to our first principles, by which means we shall amuse their people, distract the *Levellers*, and in all probability give a stop to the *distractions of the Army*, and by force cause our oppoſers to absent themselves; which effected, we shall be able to carry a Vote for adjournment, and estate the *Power* in this *Committee*, and then let the *Scots* come and spare not, we will begin the *War*, and being begun, the *Parliament must end it*.

Thus have you the sum of what the Grandees have designed and acted, since the last; They have endeavored an *accommodation*, by *Glover* their instrument, who hath visibly prosecuted their instructions. (A meeting *Glover* had with the Members of Parliament, and delivered the Propositions given him by *Crumwel*, and *Crumwel* was the first man that seemed to oppose them.)

They have sent a *Gentlewoman in Lime-street* with a Letter to the *King*, and after her return Col. *Leg* and Col. *Berclay* were dispatched to the Isle of *Wight*, and because

A147

cause they could not receive the Kings Answer time enough, they *put off the debate of disposing of the King and settling the Kingdom* to a longer day; They have adjourned the Parliament and met at *Farnham* Castle; They have ordered the strengthening of the Tower with a *thousand Foot* and a *Troop of Horse*, and the taking down of the *Chains*, the drawing of the Army neerer the City, &c. And for the rest of the forementioned design not yet acted, a little time will discover the truth hereof: Let the *Levellers* beware, and all other men, that are *rational, endeavor union*, upon *common principles*, having not upon *particular interest*, but labor to *obtain freedom*, and *equal rules of Government*, let the *Law* be binding unto *all alike*, and as they are *equal* let them be *good*; unite speedily and you may be *free men*, and enjoy *peace*; but if you stand at a distance you must be *slaves*, and *war* and *Confusion* will break in upon *you*, and then, when it is too late, you may *repent*, but not *prevent your destruction*.

FINIS.

x 7242